

27 APR 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation Concerning Health Insurance

- REFERENCES:
- a. H.R. 3458, To improve the health of the people by encouraging the extension of voluntary prepayment health services plans, facilitating the financing of construction of needed health facilities, assisting in increasing the number of adequately trained nurses and other health personnel, improving and expanding programs of mental health and public health, and for other purposes. (Health Improvement Act of 1955)
 - b. H.R. 2533, To improve the public health by encouraging more extensive use of the voluntary prepayment method in the provision of personal health services. (Health Service Prepayment Plan Reinsurance Act)
 - c. Memo for D/Pers to Legislative Counsel dated 7 April 1955, subject as above, concerning H.R. 400 and H.R. 401.

1. In response to your request, references a and b have been reviewed as a basis for comment as to their effect on Agency personnel activities and as to whether further action by your office is necessary or desirable. As was the case with the bills noted in reference c above, these proposals relate to general social legislation without specific emphasis on the Federal employee group. In their present form, therefore, we would recommend general support of the principles involved without any particular action by your office.

2. We understand informally, however, that H.R. 3458, Health Improvement Act of 1955, which is becoming known as the "omnibus bill" in this field, will probably be extended to include provision for health insurance for Federal employees. If this should occur, we would be interested in

action

Comm. doubts that bill will be extended in view of pending Fed. Emps. bill to cover Fed. Emps. pending in House Civil Service Comm. 30 April 55

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reviewing the bill in its later form to determine whether the proposal would be compatible with Agency requirements.

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Harrison G. Reynolds
Director of Personnel

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